

REMARKS

The Examiner, in paragraph 4 of the Official Action, rejected claims 1-18 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,573,927 to Parulski for the reasons set forth therein.

Currently there are 18 claims, claims 1 and 11 being independent claims upon which the remaining claims depend at least ultimately. Claims 1 and 11 are directed to a method or apparatus for automatically synchronizing each of a set of distributor multimedia assets in a distributor network that includes modifying a particular one of the set of distributor multimedia assets and automatically synchronizing others of a set of distributor multimedia assets based upon the modification to one of the set of distributor multimedia assets.

What is meant by “distributor multimedia assets” is that the multimedia asset that has been distributed among at least one other device, be it local or non-local. See page 29, lines 21-33 of the specification. Thus, in the present invention there must exist at least one image that has been distributed among a plurality of devices. The present invention, as set forth in claims 1 and 11, further require the modifying of one of the set of distributor multimedia assets and then automatically synchronizing the other of the set of multimedia assets based upon the modification previously made. In this way, all of the distributed multimedia assets will have the same modification.

The Parulski ‘927 patent is directed to a system for ordering goods or services with regard to a particular image. The ‘927 patent to allows the user to select downstream services at the time of image capture. See column 2, lines 3 and 4. The ‘927 reference also discloses the ability of the user to specify names of downstream service provider’s network address and related account information that can be used for ordering. See column 3, lines 5-59. As stated at column 3, lines 60-61, the user can take or mail the image memory card containing the image files and order information to the print service provider. There is no teaching or suggestion in the Parulski reference of providing distributed multimedia assets, for example, providing the same images among a plurality of devices. What is taught in Parulski is the ability to create an image order and forward the image order to a service provider for fulfillment. Further, there is no teaching or suggestion of making a modification of one of the images and automatically synchronizes the other images in the distributed multimedia

assets whereby other distributable multimedia assets are updated. What is disclosed in the '927 patent is simply the ability to forwarding of an image to a provider for fulfillment of an order.

Further there is no teaching or suggestion of providing an edit list which contains all the necessary information about how to perform reconstruction of the distributed multimedia asset. As set forth at page 10 of the specification, the edit list may contain an optional list of editing operations that must be performed and is the glue that identifies all digital negatives and other multimedia assets that are needed to reconstruct the resulting image and the script on how the digital negatives and other multimedia assets are rendered such that the resulting image can be recreated. Thus, it can be seen that the edit list provides specific information with regard to the "digital negative" and other multimedia assets. The Parulski reference totally fails to provide disclosure of providing an edit list to which the present invention is directed.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the cited prior art fails to teach the present invention. The prior art fails to disclose automatically synchronizing of the distributed multimedia assets or to modifying one, and the automatically synchronizing of the others based on the modification made. Thus, the prior art fails to teach or suggest the invention as taught and claimed by Applicant.

With regard to the utilization file referred to by the Examiner at column 3, lines 34-62, and in Appendix I, this is nothing more than identification of a high resolution upon which the order is to be fulfilled. There is no teaching or suggestion of providing distributed network and multimedia assets or to modification or synchronization as taught and claimed by Applicants as previously discussed. With regard to column 4, lines 10-58, this portion of the reference discloses nothing more than the ability of the camera to place an order with respect to the image thereon with regard to a fulfillment provider. There is no teaching of providing distributed network and method for automatic synchronization of modification as taught and claimed by Applicant. Column 5, lines 15-50 of the cited reference merely describe the manner in which order information is provided in the utilization file. That is, the information needed for providing the order with respect to the image referred to. The service provider that prepares the image product in Parulski does not provide a link or

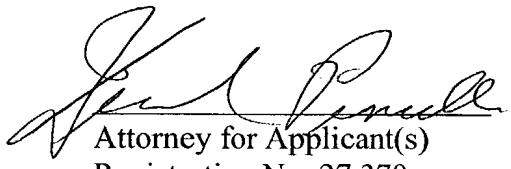
synchronization with regard to a distributed image network system, but merely fulfills an order submitted by the customer. Parulski does not teach or suggest distributed multimedia assets, i.e. distributed among a plurality of devices for the automatic synchronization of modification as taught and claimed by Applicant.

The Examiner also rejected claims 19 and 20 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Parulski et al. U.S. Patent 6,567,119. Claims 19 and 20 have been cancelled and therefore this rejection is no longer applicable.

Applicants have revised page 1 of the specification by inserting the missing serial number for the co-pending cross referenced U.S. application.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that the claims in their present form are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.